

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (IRELAND).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 28 April 1885 *pro*,

COPY "of a MEMORIAL presented to the Lord Lieutenant by certain Catholic Bishops upon the subject of ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, and which was alluded to by the Chief Secretary in introducing a Bill upon the subject."

Dublin Castle,
4 May 1885.

R. G. C. HAMILTON.

To His Excellency Earl Spencer, K.G., Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, the Episcopal Committee on Education, acting for the Catholic Bishops of Ireland and under their authority, beg most respectfully to state to your Excellency, and through you to the other Members of Her Majesty's Government, that, in the opinion of the Bishops and of the clerical managers of schools subject to their jurisdiction, the system established under the Board of National Education of paying teachers partly by salary and partly by results-fees, has contributed largely to the improvement of primary education in Ireland. After several years' experience of its operation the managers of schools are unanimous in stating: 1st. That in regard to teachers it has acted as a powerful stimulus to their industry, has secured their more equal attention to the several classes of their schools, and has led to the adoption of better methods of teaching, as well as to a more considerate treatment of their pupils.

2nd. That in respect to pupils this system has contributed steadily to a large increase of their numbers and to greater regularity of attendance; it has also increased their application to study, by the anxiety it inspired for their own success and that of their teachers and schools; and,

3rd. That it has given managers of schools a livelier interest in the success both of teachers and of pupils, and so led them to look more closely into the every-day working of their schools.

The Bishops would, therefore, view with extreme regret any change in the existing system of the remuneration of teachers. In furtherance of those views, and in anticipation of the new Treasury grants which are expected for National schools, we beg to express to your Excellency our opinion, and at the same time to declare our earnest wish, that in the interest of primary education in Ireland those grants should be made by raising the scale of results-fees.

Whilst urgently recommending this arrangement, we feel bound, in justice to the teachers of our schools, who generally devote themselves with laudable zeal to their arduous work, to request that, in fixing the amount of retiring pensions and allowances, the total income, including present and prospective results-fees, calculated on the average of a certain number of years, should be taken into account.

We also respectfully request, in the interest of education as well as of the teachers, that all National teachers shall be entitled to the maximum rates of pensions awarded to their respective classes on attaining the age of *sixty years*, in the case of males, *instead of sixty-five years*, and in the case of females on their attaining *fifty-five years*, instead of *sixty*; that all teachers shall be entitled to their reduced pensions five years earlier than at present, and that every National teacher of thirty-five years' service shall be entitled to the maximum pension

pension awarded to his class; and, should he through physical incapacity be obliged to retire before thirty-five years, shall be allowed one thirty-fifth part of such full pension for every year of service.

We also beg leave to submit as desirable that loans made for the erection of teachers' residences should be repayable in *fifty years* at the rate of *three pounds fifteen shillings* per cent. per annum, instead of at the present rate of *five per cent.* per annum in *thirty-five years*.

We have, &c.

(signed) *Daniel McGettigan*, Chairman.

Bartholomew Woodlock,

Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise,
St. Mel's, Longford,

Hon. Sec. of the Episcopal Committee on Education of
the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland.

16 March 1885.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (IRELAND).

COPY of a MEMORIAL presented to the Lord
Lieutenant by certain Catholic Bishops upon the
subject of *Elementary Education*, and which
was alluded to by the Chief Secretary in intro-
ducing a Bill upon the subject.

(Coloured Cardboard.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,

19 June 1885.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HENRY HARTLAND AND SON,

PRINTERS TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

To be purchased, either directly or through any bookseller, from any
of the following persons, viz.,

Messrs. HARRISON, 17, Great Queen-street, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and

Messrs. BARNARD and SONS, 11, Bedford-square, W.C., and